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HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1888.

日九初四四年于戊

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—E. ALGAN, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E. C. GOURGEON, STREET & CO., 30, Cornhill, GORDON & GORE, LUDGATE CIRCUIT, E. C. HARRIS, HENRY & CO., 27, Wallingford, E.C. SAMUEL DRAGON & CO., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street. W. M. WILLIS, 181, Cannon Street, E.C. PARIS AND EUROPE.—AMADEI PRINCE & CO., 36, Rue Lafayette, Paris. NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 21, Park Row.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally.—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GORE, Melbourne and Sydney.

CEYLON.—W. M. SMITH & CO., THE AUTHORIZED CO. COLONIAL.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAYLOR & CO., Square, Singapore. C. HEINRICH & CO., Manila.

CHINA.—M. A. DE CRUZ, S. S. QUINN & CO., ANGLO-N. MOALE, VADOOH, HEDGE & CO., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WALSH, Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & CO.

R. D. S.

NOTICE.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS' BANK.

1.—The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their premises in Hongkong. Business hours on week-days, 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 1.

2.—Sums less than \$1, or more than \$250 at one time will not be received. No depositor may deposit more than \$2,500 in any one year.

3.—Depositors in the Savings' Bank having \$100 or more at their credit may at their option transfer the same to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on fixed deposit for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.

4.—Interest at the rate of 3*½* per cent. per annum will be allowed to depositors on their daily balances.

5.—Each Depositor will be supplied gratis with a Pass-Book which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their Pass-Books but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, about the beginning of January and beginning of July.

6.—Correspondence as to the business of the Bank is marked On Hongkong Savings' Bank Business forwarded free by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.

7.—Withdrawals may be made on demand, but the personal attendance of the depositor or his duly appointed agent, and the production of his Pass-Book are necessary.

For the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,

T. JACKSON,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, September 1, 1888. 754

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, \$7,500,000
RESERVE FUND, \$3,900,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PRO- \$7,500,000
PRIESTORS.

COUNT OF DIRECTORS.
Chairman—Hon. JOHN BELL IRVING.
Deputy Chairman—W. H. FORBES, Esq.
C. D. BOTTOMLEY, Esq.
W. G. BRIDGE, Esq.
H. L. DALMYPLE, Esq.
R. LATTON, Esq.
Hon. A. P. McEWEN.

CHIEF MANAGER.
Hongkong, Thomas JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER.
Shanghai, EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.
INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

On Fixed Deposits—

For 3 months, 2 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 per cent. " "
" 12 " 5 per cent. " "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.
Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, April 25, 1888. 763

Intimations.

CHAS. J. GAUPP & CO.,

Chronometer, Watch & Clock Makers,

Jewellers, Gold & Silversmiths.

NAUTICAL, SCIENTIFIC AND METEOROLOGICAL INSTRUMENTS.

VOYAGEUR'S CELEBRATED BINOCULARS AND TELESCOPES.

BATCHELOR'S LIQUID AND OTHER COMPASSES.

ADMIRALTY & IMPRAY CHARTS.

NAUTICAL BOOKS.

ENGLISH SILVER & ELECTRIC-PLATEDWARE.

CHRISTIE & CO.'S ELECTRIC-PLATEDWARE.

GOLD & SILVER JEWELLERY

in great variety.

DIA MONDS

AND

DIA MOND JEWELLERY

A Splendid Collection of the Latest London Patterns, at very moderate prices. 742

NOTICE.

I. DISSE, Dr., Med.

11, Queen's Road Central.

CONSULTATIONS IN ENGLISH, FRENCH

and GERMAN, from 8.30 to 10 A.M.

and from 2 to 4 P.M.

Hongkong, May 9, 1888. 744

Intimations.

BANK HOLIDAYS.

In accordance with Ordinance No. 6 of 1875, the Undermentioned BANKS will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business on MONDAY, the 21st Instant (Whit Monday), and on THURSDAY, the 24th Instant (Queen's Birthday).

For the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China.

JOHN THURBURN,

Manager, Hongkong.

For the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.

T. H. WHITEHEAD,

Manager, Hongkong.

For the 'Hongkong and Shanghai Bank' Incorporation.

T. JACKSON,

Chief Manager.

For the 'Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris.'

J. RANGER,

Acting Agent.

For the New 'Oriental Bank Corporation, Limited.'

E. W. RUTTER,

Manager, Hongkong.

Hongkong, May 17, 1888. 805

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Hongkong, May 10, 1888.

A Small Machine for making Block Ice, Icing Water and Wines.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Hongkong, May 10, 1888. 78

NOTICE.

H. U. JEFFRIES,

Secretary.

Hongkong, May 12, 1888. 785

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

T. JACKSON,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, September 1, 1888. 754

THE PUNJUM AND SUNGHIE DUA SAMANTAN MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hongkong, February 21, 1888

NOTICE.

THE Second Ordinary Half-Yearly MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at the Company's OFFICE, Pedder's Street, on THURSDAY, 24th May, 1888, at 4 p.m., for the purpose of receiving a Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Account to 30th September, 1887.

The Transfer BOOKS will be CLOSED from 10th to 24th Instant, both days inclusive.

A. D. GOURDIN,

Secretary.

Hongkong, May 17, 1888. 806

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Hongkong, February 21, 1888

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A. D. GOURDIN,

Secretary.

Hongkong, September 1, 1888. 754

NOTICE.

THE CHINESE PASSENGERS by the S.S. 'Polo' on her last voyage feel bound to record their profoundest thanks to Captain REED for the kind treatment they received, and they take this opportunity of acknowledging the universal esteem in which he is held. Since ever he took command of the ship he has noted for the kind attention he paid to the Passengers. He treated them without distinction and was careful about the minutest details.

Misfortunes happen to all. Even the wisest man finds that out of his thousand plans one fails, and it seems as if it were a decree of Providence that it should be so. We wish to state how the unfortunate accident happened to the 'San Pablo'. On the 25th March we started from San Francisco, arriving at Yokohama after a fine passage on the 12th April. Next day we left Yokohama for Hongkong. All went well till the 17th when we were near Turnabout Island and about two or three days' sailing from Hongkong. The night of the 17th was dark as ink, a thick fog had settled down and the sea seemed black as pitch. The Captain kept blowing the whistles every minute and was very careful in his navigation. The Engines were slowed down and the Vessel proceeded very slowly. About three o'clock of that night, however, she struck on a rock. We were all frightened, and we thought we might be drowned. Our fear was all the greater because the accident happened during the night and we could see nothing. The Captain, however, reassured us. The water had not risen high in the hold and we could walk about. If the Captain had not been so careful and slowed down the disaster would have been terrible. After a few hours the sun rose and numerous fishing boats came towards us and a distress flag was hoisted. The steamer 'Pedder' then came to our assistance and the passengers and their luggage were transferred to her and brought on to Shanghai. There we stayed until the 26th April, when Mr. HARMAN (the agent) and the Captain having made arrangements with the steamer 'Canton', we were brought on by that vessel to Hongkong. We acknowledge gratefully that we owe our safety and comfort first to Captain REED's carefulness, which prevented the 'San Pablo' from striking at once, second to the fortunate arrival of the 'Pedder' and third to Mr. HARMAN kindly arranging to bring us home. We must also at the same time record our sincere thanks to the Purser, Mr. JOHN RONOR for the kindness and assistance he invariably bestowed on us.

Signed for the Passengers,

KOW LUM, Merchant,

TANG KAN Committee,

Hongkong, May 17, 1888. 814

NOTICE.

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE RAMBLE THROUGH SOUTHERN FORMOSA.—By MR. G. TAYLOR.

This Article, which has been reprinted from the 'China Review', contains one of the best Sketches of Formosan Life yet written.

Address, 'Mrs. C. Temperance Hall, Shanghai, 27th April, 1888. 741

NOTICE.

ISaac HUGHES,

Secretary.

Hongkong, November 7, 1887. 2148

NOTICE.

THE RAMBLE THROUGH SOUTHERN FORMOSA.—By MR. G. TAYLOR.

This Article, which has been reprinted from the 'China Review', contains one of the best Sketches of Formosan Life yet written.

A few roughly-executed Woodcuts are included in the pamphlet.

May be had—Price, \$1—at Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, Limited, Hongkong; also, Mr. N. MOALE, Amoy.

Hongkong, March 3, 1888. 803

NOTICE.

I. DISSE, Dr., Med.

11, Queen's Road Central.

CONSULTATIONS IN ENGLISH, FRENCH

and GERMAN, from 8.30 to 10 A.M.

THE CHINA MAIL.

Mr. J. C. Hall, lately acting British Consul at Yokohama, is appointed acting Assistant Judge at Shanghai, replacing Mr. Geo. Jamison. Mrs. Hall is an old resident in Shanghai, being a daughter of the late Judge Goodwin.

A TYPHOON.

A real typhoon seems to have broken loose at last. At about the beginning of this week, Dr. D'Herck said that, according to a certain paragraph in a certain work of his, a typhoon had probably entered the China Sea in a low latitude. As all the steamers that arrived from Singapore since then reported fair weather and calm throughout, we said this Dr was *sainte-outre* in his vagueness, or at any rate, little previous. Now, however, we have got a definite message from Bolivia, kindly sent us by the Spanish Consul, which is to the following effect:—

"A typhoon is raging in the N.W. of Leaven."

Whether this is Dr. D'Herck's typhoon, which after all did not enter the China Sea in a low latitude, but got bottled up at Lazou for a week, we cannot say, as we have not got a copy of the learned Dr's wonderful work beside us.

EXTRAORDINARY SERIES OF ACCIDENTS AT A FIRE.

A remarkable series of accidents illustrating very strikingly the dangers attendant on the work of the Fire Brigades occurred at a fire last night. The scene of the fire was Queen's Road West. About eight o'clock the house number 65, the lower portion of which was occupied as a drug store and watchmaker's shop, was seen to be on fire. The flames spread with extraordinary rapidity; and, besides making the destruction of the house inevitable, they soon enveloped the adjoining buildings. Before the Brigades reached the spot four houses were burning; and, as it was evident that nothing could be done to save them, the efforts of the brigades were confined to preventing the fire from spreading further. In this, after a good deal of hard work, they were fortunately successful. Copious streams of water had been poured on the burning buildings and those adjoining for nearly an hour-and-a-half before the brigades diminished their exertions, and even after that time great care had to be taken to guard against any fresh outbreak. That the words of Judge Russell should be deeply impressed upon every Chinese in this Colony, and the orderly and law-abiding native ought to re-echo them and make the Celestials understand that, once a man comes under the British flag, no one can coerce him into going anywhere against his will.

That the Law alone can coerce, and even this coercion permissible only on account of a breach of the law and upon 'proof of guilt' carried out for the welfare of the community.

That from all I can hear the observations of the Acting Chief Justice are but too well founded, this practice of waylaying having lately been enormously on the increase.

That the stories told are both romantic and incredible, but that they must have some foundation of truth, and I feel ill at ease when one thinks over the repeated failures to convict in cases where Chinese alone are implicated.

That the recent death of the coolie in Second Street, who was alleged to have been beaten because he refused to emigrate, and the escape of the rascals concerned with the ill-use, are not reassuring, as they indicate the poor grip we have over the lower classes of Chinese. That, although the *esprit de corps* in the Police Force would have been better observed had the case of the two litigants been settled out of Court, it stands to reason that no rule of the service can interfere with a man's rights at common law.

That although the Sanitary Board have not favoured the public lately with any of those lucid, comprehensive and eminently satisfactory Minutes of their valuable deliberations, it is generally believed that the so-called Municipal Board of Health still exists.

That it is also beyond dispute that the smell of Paya Central arc, if anything, more tangible than ever.

That if I had been a member of the Sanitary Board I would have done as Lord Wolseley did, threatened to resign, and I would have varied his programme by actually resigning a body which has been long 'in suspense' waiting for a new corporation and new clothes, and has never got them.

That the only interest in this matter is now centred in the three or four odd men who are said to have given an evasive answer to the supporters of both candidates, and whose names are expected to turn the scale on the Laytonian or Franciscan side.

That I still adhere to my opinion, that the merchant will be the successful candidate.

That the opinions expressed last week about the unwise action of the Dock Directors in the *Ardey* case have not given universal satisfaction to the Board, although a large number of shareholders have warmly approved the ventilation of the subject by Captain Stuart and your humble servant.

That it ought to be a very simple matter for the Board to put themselves right with the shareholders and the public on this subject.

That Ramous has it that the operations for floating the *Ardey* are proceeding to the satisfaction of those concerned.

That the question now meets with is, What is the next stock to be set upon by the Bears?

injury than a number of cuts and bruises, although some of these are severe. He had been protected by the beams which fell over him, which, while relieving him of the crushing weight of material above, at the same time made a little space and enabled him to breathe, although with difficulty. One arm was free and could be moved about, but the rest of his body was held in a vice. He was unable to make any noise that would attract the attention of those who would willingly have saved him from his awful position had they known of it. The other members of the Volunteer Brigade had left the scene of the fire about ten o'clock. The call was as usual, and Mr. Dipple's absence was explained by the presumption that he had gone home. It is a thousand pities that a suspicion entered the head of any of the members as to Mr. Dipple's safety, but there appears to have been not the slightest apprehension of anything like what had really occurred. The second fall of walls included those of two houses of which the fire had not taken hold, and the possibility of more houses coming down led to orders being given to the brigade men not to expose themselves to danger more than was absolutely necessary. As usual a detachment of the Government Brigade remained to watch against any fresh outbreak after the work of subduing the fire had been accomplished, and it was by one of this party, Foreman Kemp, that Mr. Dipple's terrible plight was discovered. Foreman Kemp thought he heard a sound like moaning from the mass of ruins, and believing that one of the Chinese firemen had been buried beneath it at once set about clearing a way to the spot from which the sounds proceeded. This was about one o'clock. Some of the Chinese who were removing the fallen masonry spoke to the entombed man, and Mr. Dipple's voice was heard answering—"I'm not a Chinaman, I'm an Englishman." The relieving party worked with a will and soon had Mr. Dipple out of the grave in which he had lain crushed and suffocating for three long hours that must have seemed an eternity. He is now in the Government Civil Hospital and is progressing favourably as could be expected, and it is hoped that in a week he will be himself again. The house in which the fire broke out was occupied by Mr. Ng Man Kuan, and the lower floor was insured in the Straits Insurance Company's Office for \$12,000. The adjoining house, number 53, was insured in the same office for \$6,000. All the houses were of the ordinary Chinese type, containing shops below and dwelling-houses above. During the time the fire was raging the number of spectators was very large, but excellent order was kept by a body of police under Captain Superintendent Deane.

FRAGRANT WATERS' MURMUR. That there was a large number, was startled by the walls of the burnt-out houses giving way and falling with a tremendous noise. This happened so suddenly that there was barely time for the brigade men who were standing under them to get out of the way. That they did succeed in getting clear of the falling walls was almost a miracle, and indeed there was for some time a feeling almost amounting to certainty that a number of men must have been buried among the ruins. What more immediately engaged the attention of the brigade men was the safety of two of their numbers, Phelps and Beaton, who were on the top of one of the houses when they fell. By a most fortunate chance, however, both men escaped the fate that was felt certain must be theirs.

Beaton succeeded in springing out to the verandah of an adjoining house just as he felt the one he was on giving way, but in doing so cut himself badly about the head. Phelps was hurled down with the masonry and buried under it, falling a distance of about forty feet. By another miracle some wooden beams fell in such a way as to form a roof over him, and so effectually was he shielded by this that when his comrades had cleared an opening for him through the debris he stepped out unharmed. Other supposed victims were two Chinese members of the Government Brigade. One of these was standing near Assistant Foreman Phelps when the collapse occurred and fell on the street as safely as a cat. These second Chinaman was seen to be standing on a verandah just before it fell. While a search was being made for him he unexpectedly appeared among the searchers, safe and sound. His escape was due to the fact that he fell the verandah giving way and stepped into the building just in time to save himself from being thrown down on the street. As might be expected, it was with a feeling of profound thankfulness that it was found no loss of life had occurred.

But the most surprising accident of the evening was yet to occur. Scarcely had the brigade men recovered from the shock of the first fall of walls when another crash was heard, caused by another falling of walls. A body of the Volunteer Brigade were playing on the still burning portions of the buildings from the top of the mass of ruins and their position exposed them to considerable danger. A number of them narrowly escaped being overwhelmed in the falling masonry, but it was believed they had all got away without any serious damage. It was not so, however; one of their number, Mr. R. P. Dipple, was at that time actually buried beneath a mass of the fallen material. What was more remarkable was that his position was unknown to any but himself for more than three hours; and, most wonderful of all, he was at the end of that long period of entombment got out, not only alive but without more serious

all bought in two blocks with consecutive numbers from one jobber. That, as there are many jobbers and legions of brokers, of all sorts here, with many stocks, Boards of Directors and Consulting Committees, the question may well be put, How is the Stock Exchange worked in these parts?

That a remedy frequently proposed is a woodcut out of the fraternity by the inauguration of a system of stern brokers. That Directors and members of Consulting Committees would probably also have to be sworn to secrecy.

That we in Hongkong have a heavy score to settle with the Home Government, but that, if so much has yet to be done at Home for the defence of the heart of the Empire, we may have to wait many weary months before we can see those promise-bursting guns.

That we don't want to fight, but, by Jingo, if we do—we have but very few guns to fight with.

That I must look about for a comfortableandbox, with cotton wool lining, if things come to the worst.

That the Colony will, I sincerely hope, be saved from any greater calamity than the visit of the Astronomical Doctor's typhoons till I have made my place out of the yellow gold of Pukun and the black diamonds of Tonquin, and can take ship in one of the sixty-knot liners to some distant and beautiful isle of the sea.

That the old Victor Emmanuel, with her drafty upper and lower decks, has invalidated a large number of our gallant sailors of late years, and she should be relegated to the care of 'Old Davy' or some other salt-water deity, while proper quarters should be built at Kowloon for the Commodore and his staff.

That probably this view of the case has never struck the wise men of Whitehall, as Hospital records go for nothing when money has to be spent.

THAT'S ALL, FOLKS.

TRIAL OF AN ENGLISHMAN AT BUCHAREST. Vienna, April 14.—An Englishman, who acted as agent in Bucharest for several English firms, was yesterday arrested, and awaits trial, for 'complicity in corruption' in the case of two brothers called Maican. An action against one of the brothers, General Maican, former Under Secretary in the Romanian War Office, ended on Wednesday night in his condemnation to degradation and 10 months' arrest. The report of the trial shows the part the accused had in it. He confessed to having bribed the ex-War Minister Angelescu with twenty-five thousand francs, a sum which was refunded to him after the matter came out—and further to have given ten thousand francs to Captain Mardare, fifteen thousand francs to General Maican, who, however, demanded thirty thousand, and not receiving that sum, threatened to withdraw his protection. Letters were produced, signed 'Louis,' which Maican wrote to the accused, referring to a contract for five million cartridges, and demanding a provision for himself of one franc for every thousand, or altogether five thousand francs, whilst a large commission was given for a contract for a 'baled cruiser,' for which two English firms had tendered. It was also in evidence that Angelescu and his brothers Maican had their hands in other bargains. They took, or demanded, 'commissions' when contracting for torpedoes, army revolvers, coal for the Admiralty, cavalry saddles—in short, for everything. As one brother Maican was First Naval Lord, and the other the right hand of the War Minister, no contract was signed without commission, and as the defendant stated in court, no agent or contractor had a hearing without first mentioning the sum he would distribute. There was consequently no option. Agents had to bribe or force business. It was mentioned during the proceedings that the practice prevailed among Angelescu's predecessors. This trial explains why the Brasov Cabinet had to be dismissed, in spite of its large majority.

ENGLAND AND EGYPT.

Constantinople, April 14.—As to the basis on which the negotiations with regard to Egypt are to be carried on, the Ministers themselves have not made up their minds; but the early evacuation of Egypt by the British troops is, of course, the foremost thought, the next consideration being the possibility of getting a loan by the process of again capitulating the Egyptian Tribute. The French Ambassador is very anxious to get the Anglo-French Suez Canal Convention settled here before the negotiations upon a direct Anglo-Turkish understanding commence, and is accordingly pressing the Porte in this sense; but as the Turks consider that the French have played them a trick in concluding the Convention behind their backs, I should not be at all surprised if they retaliated by giving precedence to the Anglo-Turkish Agreement.

The Turkish Ministers still have under consideration the Suez Canal Convention; it is believed that they will not approve it in its present form, and will propose fresh modifications.

THE EMPRESS AND THE MARRIAGE.

St. Petersburg, April 16.—I am informed on good authority that Sir Robert Morier some days ago sounded the Empress respecting the projected marriage between Prince Alexander and the Princess Victoria. Her Majesty answered that she should be very happy to see the Princess married in accordance with her own feelings. The matter had no doubt, however, a political side. Upon this, naturally enough, the Empress declined to say anything.

Odessa, April 16.—The projected marriage of the Princess Victoria has excited a good deal of feeling here. The organ of the Russo-Germans do not seem to be influenced by the present Emperor and his wife, but the English press is, of course, in full sympathy with the Empress.

AUSTRIA—REGENTS BISMARCK'S SUBMISSION TO GERMANY.

Vienna, 15th April.—The Times correspondent telegraphed:—In these circumstances people in Vienna fail to see how the Chancellor can possibly remain in office, or why he should remain. Ten days ago everybody here was speaking with consternation of Prince Bismarck's possible resignation; now it is seen that he remains in office a most troublous period of international misunderstandings will set in. No man ever so suddenly and quickly drops away the influence of a commanding position as Prince Bismarck has done. Well might it be said of him in this connection:—'All the ripe fruit of three-score years was wasted in a day.' The complete reliance of Sovereign upon Minister and the whole-hearted devotion of Minister towards Sovereign have been for the last 20 years the great strength of the Prussian dynasty. Austria-Hungary was not prepared for the abrupt reversal of an antagonism between the German Emperor and his chief adviser; but as Germany's principal ally she has rapidly to consider the prospect opened up by this altered state of things, and she is pronouncing more and more loudly against the Chancellor.

For it is not forgotten in this country that the German newspapers now supporting Prince Bismarck are the very same which last autumn raised the furious war-cry against Russia. When the Chancellor wished to compel the Czar to publish the famous Coburg letters—which subsequently were published in the *Courrier des Finances*, he lashed the noble pack of his official scribblers into a frenzy of invective against Russia. It was then we heard of the concentration of troops in Poland. It was then that Austria-Hungary was frantically exhorted to arm quickly and flushed for being怠慢 in her preparations. It was then that we were scared by ravings about an aggressive Russo-French alliance, and it was then that millions of pounds were lost upon the Exchanges of Europe in the panic as to an impending European war. But now all this fury is gone, and Prince Bismarck is seen prostrate before the Czar—prostrate and so humble indeed that he would rather shorten the life of his Emperor and deny one of the fondest wishes of his Emperor than consent to a marriage which would displease the Russian autocrat.

These antics of the man who lately boasted before the German Parliament that Germany feared nothing but God are neither understood nor admired in Vienna, and the time has come for saying that Prince Bismarck's view of the duties which Germany owe to Austria-Hungary as far as the maintenance of the alliance is concerned is not by any means that adopted here.

GERMANY AND ZANZIBAR.

Berlin, April 10.—The new Sultan of Zanzibar has signed the treaty concluded between his predecessor and the German East African Company, making only some immaterial amendments. The effect of the treaty is that the strip of territory, ten English miles in breadth, from the northern side of the Rovuma to the Umba, that is to say to the river bounding the sphere of British interests, comes under the administration of the company. This strip of land, hitherto claimed by the Sultan, cut off the possessions of the company from the sea, and the treaty therefore gives the company a seaboard.

THE SUGAR TRADE.

Cape Town, April 14.—An international conference of persons connected with the sugar

trade will be held here in Whitsun week. It is expected that from 600 to 800 delegates from Germany and foreign countries will be present.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Cape Town, April 14.—Owing to the menacing attitude of the Deunars and Namaqua under the German protectorate, the Cape Government is about to despatch a detachment of Cape Mounted Rifles for the protection of the Europeans at Walvisch Bay.

The admiral in command of the station has been requested to furnish a gunboat for the conveyance of the troops.

THE EMPEROR OF BRAZIL.

Vienna, April 15.—rumours having been circulated as to the Emperor of Brazil's intention to abdicate, it must be stated that they are totally denied here, and it is authoritatively asserted that His Majesty will very shortly return to Brazil, where most important State matters await his consideration.

AN ENGLISH ARTIST IN JAPAN.

The Times of 13th April says:—We have had lately a superabundance of pictures of the Japanese by themselves, but never till now have we had a whole exhibition devoted to the representation of Japanese life by an English artist. This morning, however, at Messrs. Dowdeswell's gallery in New Bond Street, such an exhibition is opened to the public; and if we are not mistaken it will be the talk of the town until the Academy opens. Mr. Mortimer Menpes, who has produced these little pictures, drawings, and etchings, is probably the first European artist who has deliberately visited Japan with the intention of making a prolonged study of the life and art of the people. He did so last year, staying in that country for nine months, and the fruit of his labours is displayed in this charming exhibition. With his work our readers have from time to time been made acquainted, for we have often called attention to his extremely clever sketches and 'impressions,' some times of French or English children, sometimes of Japanese single figures. Beginning his artistic life as a pupil of Mr. Poynter at South Kensington, his master, but learned new methods in France and elsewhere. Like many another modern artist, he was early seized by a passion for Japanese art; he carried his love to a more intense extent than the others, and went to Japan while they remained at home and talked about the Japanese. The show that he has provided for admirers of the art is extremely correct; the room is hung with silk of the 'chrysanthemum pink' which is so much affected by the Japanese, an evening of white-brown linen softens the light, and a floor-cloth of special pale gray keeps all the rest in harmony. The little pictures are hung in calculated disorder, by giving precedence to the Anglo-Turkish Agreement.

The Turkish Ministers still have under consideration the Suez Canal Convention; it is believed that they will not approve it in its present form, and will propose fresh modifications.

THE EMPIRE AND THE MARKET.

St. Petersburg, April 16.—I am informed on good authority that Sir Robert Morier some days ago sounded

MY LITTLE NEIGHBOUR.

(VICTOR HUGO.)

If you nothing have to say,
Why so often come this way?
Rosy lips and blue eyes smiling,
Stranger heads than mine beguiling.
From their study and their labour;
Tell me, charming little neighbour
If you nothing have to say,
Why so often come this way?

If you nothing have to teach,
Why not practise as you preach?
Little hands so softly pressing,
Teasing half, and half caressing,
Saucy lips, and sparkling eye,
Needs must have a reason why;
If you nothing have to teach,
Why not practise as you preach?

If you say I have not won you,
Why not, sweet one, let me shun you.
Now my books aside are thrown,
You I read, and you alone;
If you ever are denying,
Why then hinder me from flying?
If you say I have not won you,
Why not, sweet one, let me shun you?

TREASURE TROVE.

ROMANTIC STORY OF ROBBERY IN ABDOLI. MIRRED TIME.

Over a small stream, about thirty miles from Constantinople, is a bridge which bears its full measure of fame in its way. It is a narrow bridge, and along the marshy banks of the stream that it crosses grow the bushes and shrubs that are used to make charcoal in the powder factory near St. George, and the water-course is partly fed from a hidden source in what was called the Devil's Cave, which is near by. At the edge of the marshy bank stands a tiny guard-house, in which four Turkish soldiers are stationed—poor, thin, fever-worn wretches who have to hold each other's guns as the time approaches for their shift to come on, and who all together could not muster strength enough to oppose any one who felt inclined to resist their authority in this favor-striken spot. The mouth of the Devil's Cave is within sight of the bridge, and instead of attributing the favor to the prevalence in the neighbourhood, to the marshy ground and stagnant water, the people have a superstition that it comes from the influence of the evil spirits which dwell in this cave, which is regarded with fear and terror by all who have ever heard of it, or seen it in this vicinity. There are stories current of the piercing screams and deafening groans to be heard after nightfall in this place, which dealt in such direful scenes, and no one who lives there could be forced to enter after dark.

In 1865, or thereabouts, something happened which called attention very strongly toward this very cave and its vicinity. The taxes paid to the interior of Turkey and her dependencies are collected by an appointment for the purpose, and the money, in silver, is placed in strong bags made of nested hempen twine, and these bags are slung across men's backs. Sometimes those will be a train of sixty mites, each charged with silver, on route to Constantinople. To protect the bridge at Yerimantis, as these four sick soldiers are stationed, one up to the parapet of which they had been to robbery at this bridge, though the one on the other side of the hill had been the scene of many bloody encounters; here it met. But one evening the tax-bearer, bearing the treasure came down the road to pass the bridge, it seemed as if in a second the earth grew man-like mushrooms, out of nothing. The guard-were disengaged, some were killed, and the mules and treasure disappeared in the darkness.

Of course there was a great stir made, and the country was scared and wide. Omar Pasha, who lived but a few miles from the spot, took a guard of soldiers and went to this cave, but he could find no trace of the treasure, the mules or the robbers, and already two or three persons had been captured and tortured to make them tell something of which they were entirely innocent. When later, it became known that the Sultan's jewel room had been robbed in broad daylight of a large tray of most valuable unset jewels, all Turkey was thrown into a fever of excitement. It was the Sultan Abdul Mejid who was robbed; who was known and loved for his geniality and nobleness. He had been too busy with his prayers like all good Mussulmans, and then to eat his dinner; and while at dinner his jewel box had been entered and the tray of jewels carried out.

There was no one whom the officers could suspect; no one could have apprehended the Sultan's jewel room unguarded, unless it were two Croats who worked near that part of the garden of the palace that day. These two unfortunate, who were brothers, were seized and searched. Not the slightest thing was found in their possession which would tend to incriminate them, but it was thought that they might have had confederates, and they were given over to the prison authorities, who put them to torture again and again on the rock to make them confess, but always useless. But at last the chief prison authority thought of a method of making them confess, knowing them to be brothers. He had them brought out together and announced his intention of applying "the ball" to the younger brother, hoping that the older would speak to save his brother, though he would not himself.

The bell was made of iron, shaped like a hoghead, and about the same size, and hung upon a chain held by an immense crane. The bell was heated red-hot and let down over the doomed man's head to the floor, inclosing him in its fiery embrace. Whether the brothers were innocent or not no one ever knew. They both denied and both passed under the bell. One, the elder, died in its fiery torture; while the other was burned so that his face, hands and arms were horribly disfigured ever afterward, and he was left totally blind. His lips were burned away, leaving his white teeth showing forever in a horrid, mocking smile. The treasure was not discovered, and no one ever thought of connecting the two robberies. Whoever had committed them was evidently afraid to make use of the results, and the whole affair was hidden in absolute mystery. The unfortunate Croat was allowed to beg his bread in the Grand Rue de Paris, partly to strike terror to the hearts of possible malefactors, and partly because the prison-keepers, hard-hearted as they are, could not bear to submit the poor wretch to further torture. There may be some who think that nobody is put to torture in these days, but the writer of this article had a cousin by marriage, hung up by his heels, with his head in a tank of boiling quicklime, until all his hair and scalp were burned off, and his sight was destroyed. This was a noble youth of nineteen, and he was suspected by the Turks of carrying depots during the late Russo-Turkish war for the benefit of the Russians. He is now insane in the hospital at the Seven Towers.

After the terrible tortures of the two Croats, there were few arrests, and notwithstanding. One night a poor young fellow who kept a very small tobacco shop in St. George, where he sold tobacco to the men who worked in Baroutji Bashi's powder factory in the valley below the village of St. George, which crowns the hill, had a dream. It was a remarkable dream, and he thought a good deal of it during the day. But the

young man—Georgio by name—was by nature a very silent person, and so he never spoke of it. The next night he dreamed again, and the next night—always the same. He seemed to see himself standing in front of the little foot-bridge which spanned the stream which came from the Devil's Cave and somehow he felt as if he knew that the stolen money and jewels were all lying there for him to take. He did not stop to question the right or wrong of it. He only considered that he had had a revelation from the other world, and that he had a right, to do what the spirits had given him the sign of.

The third day he arose and went to the village priest, for he was a devout Greek in religion, and got a little holy water; and with that, some charms in each shoe and bits of holy relics around his neck, he set forth from any evil spirits which might inhabit the Devil's Cave, and waiting until dark he made his way directly to the little foot-bridge. He reached it and said to his knees in the marshy soil as he crept under it and began to dig. In a few minutes he discovered the bags of silver money, and then searching among them, he came to a small iron box. He seemed to know that this contained the jewels, though he had no reason to suspect that they were there. At all events, he found the box, and taking that, he crept along to the entrance of the cave and entered there, feeling his way as best he could until he came to the staircase which led to the room above the main entrance. When he reached this room he looked about by the feeble glow of a tallow candle—until he found a little niche, in which he hid his precious box, covering it with some of the guano with which the floors were covered, from the myriad of bats which make this their home. After hiding the box, he set about carrying bags of silver in and hiding them in different places, covering them in the same way. He worked steadily at this until morning was about to dawn, when he returned to his home and slept nearly all day, pretending to feel sick, which was an occurrence not at all unusual with the people who inhabited that part of Turkey, with its malaria marshes. The following two nights he passed in the same way and by hard work managed to transport all the bags into the cave. When this was done, he set about getting a stock of provisions, and that he carried most, to this place and hid. He was a smart shrewd fellow, far beyond the average of the English, French, or American, with the Distance off at that time, will be substituted for the Compass Signal, and it will be kept flying until the Ship anchors. The Ball and Ensign will be hauled up until the vessel anchors. The Distance Signal will be kept flying for half-an-hour, and changed at each successive half hour to show the Distance off at those times. When the vessel is between Green Island and the North Point of Hongkong, the Distance Signal will be hauled down. If the Mail Steamer is not in the Harbour when it is too dark to distinguish flags, a red light will be exhibited at the West Yard Arm, or a green light at the East Yard Arm until she anchors.

7. RIVER STEAMERS will not be signalled. The approach of other Steamers from Macao or Canton will be made known by showing the National, or House Flag and Symbol at Yard Arm.

8. If a Flag showing that an Officer of high rank is on board an incoming vessel, a similar flag will be shown above the Ball or the Flag alone will be hoisted at the Mast Head.

9. The approach of Men-of-War and Sailing Vessels will be notified by their proper Symbols and National Colours, or House Flags, at the Quarter of the Yard, or at the Mast Head.

10. 8.00 A.M.—Posting of Prices Current and Circulars ceased.

(Prices Current and Circulars may however be posted up to 10 o'clock if they are tied in bundles, country by country, with the addresses all one way).

10.00 A.M.—Registry ceases.

10.30 A.M.—Posting of Newspapers, Books, and Patents ceases.

11.00 A.M.—Mail closes.

12. LAZAR LETTERS may be posted (from 11.10 A.M.) with 10 cents extra up to 11.30 A.M., after which hour they may be sent on Board with the same Late Fees.

The Extra Steamers of the Messageries Maritimes Company between Colombo and Calcutta have been withdrawn. From this date through communication with Madras and Calcutta by Messageries packet will be four-weekly only, viz., on the following dates of departure from Hongkong:—

July 7, August 30, November 28,

June 5, September 27, December 26,

August 2, October 31.

Mails for India will be made up by the intermediate packets as formerly for transmission to Colombo, whence they will go on to Madras by the first opportunity.

Hongkong, May 10, 1888.

Government Notification.

No. 56.

HARBOUR DEPARTMENT.
The following Rules regarding signalling at the Peak are published for general information.

By Command,
FREDERICK STEWART,
Acting Colonial Secretary,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 17th February, 1888.

SIGNAL STATION, VICTORIA PEAK, HONGKONG.
1223 Feet above Sea Level.

1. The Union Jack will be hoisted at the Mast Head when any vessel is being signalled.

2. The Commercial Code of Signals for all Nations will be used at the Station.

3. All Signals made by vessels in the Offing will be repeated.

4. When Signalling to Men-of-War in the Harbour or in the Offing, a White Ensign will be hoisted at the Flagstaff and at the Mast Head of the Man-of-War.

5. When a Steamer, or the smoke of a Steamer, is sighted, the Compass Bearing at the Yard Arm, and Distance off at the Mast Head, will be hoisted.

6. If the Steamer is a regular Mail Steamer, a Gun will be fired, and a Ball over the English, French, or American Ensign, with the Distance off at that time, will be shown at the Mast Head. The Compass Signal and Symbol will be hauled down.

7. The Ball and Ensign will be hauled up until the vessel anchors. The Distance Signal will be kept flying for half-an-hour, and changed at each successive half hour to show the Distance off at those times. When the vessel is between Green Island and the North Point of Hongkong, the Distance Signal will be hauled down. If the Mail Steamer is not in the Harbour when it is too dark to distinguish flags, a red light will be exhibited at the West Yard Arm, or a green light at the East Yard Arm until she anchors.

8. RIVER STEAMERS will not be signalled. The approach of other Steamers from Macao or Canton will be made known by showing the National, or House Flag and Symbol at Yard Arm.

9. If a Flag showing that an Officer of high rank is on board an incoming vessel, a similar flag will be shown above the Ball or the Flag alone will be hoisted at the Mast Head.

10. The approach of Men-of-War and Sailing Vessels will be notified by their proper Symbols and National Colours, or House Flags, at the Quarter of the Yard, or at the Mast Head.

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sion to Colombo, whence they will go on to Madras by the first opportunity.

Hongkong, May 10, 1888.

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

MAY 18.—AT 4 P.M.

Temperature
Wind
Clouds
Pressure

Wind
Force
Weather

Rain
Clouds
Precip.

Wind
Force
Weather